

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

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Serial No.: 10/056,270

Attorney Docket No. 100.323US01

Filing Date: 1/24/2002

Title: ELECTRICAL NOISE PROTECTION

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed on December 3, 2004, as well as the art cited, has been reviewed. Claims 1-26 are pending in this application and claims 8-10, 14, 15, 19-21, 25 and 26 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4, 6, 11-13 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(c) as being anticipated by Akiba et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,353,540). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claim 1 of the present application recites an electronic device comprising “a circuit board”, “a first circuit disposed on a first side of the circuit board, the first circuit connected to a first ground plane of the circuit board” and “a second circuit disposed on a second side of the circuit board, wherein the second side is opposite the first side, the second circuit connected to a second ground plane of the circuit board”. Claim 1 further recites “wherein the first and second ground planes respectively lie in different planes of the circuit board and are electrically interconnected by a conductive trace disposed within the circuit board.”

The Office Action rejected claim 1 of the present application based on FIG. 34 of Akiba. With respect to the language in claim 1 reciting “wherein the first and second ground planes respectively lie in different planes of the circuit board and are electrically interconnected by a conductive trace disposed within the circuit board”, the Office Action took the position that ground planes 15 and 21 are electrically connected through a resistor Rc.

It is respectfully submitted that the resistor Rc does not comprise “a conductive trace disposed within the circuit board” as set forth in claim 1. Even assuming for the sake of argument that the resistor Rc of FIG. 34 can properly be considered a trace, Akiba is silent as to having the resistor Rc “disposed within the circuit board” as recited in claim 1 of the present application. It is respectfully submitted that Akiba neither teaches nor suggests this. *See, e.g.*, Akiba, column 18, lines 43-48 (“The matching termination resistor Rc 25 (25-1, 25-2) is connected to the end of the parallel plate line (two lines for the rectangular shape) formed by the

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ground layer G115 and the ground layer G321 to absorb the potential fluctuation (resonance) of the power layer V116 and the power layer V220.”) (emphasis added).

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

Claims 2-4, 6, and 11-13 all ultimately depend from claim 1. Therefore, the arguments set forth above with respect to claim 1 apply to these claims as well. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of these claims be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5, 16-17 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Akiba et al. in view of Hirashiro et al. (JP 406069680). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claim 5 depends from claim 1. Therefore, the arguments set forth above with respect to claim 1 apply to this claim as well. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 5 be withdrawn.

Claim 16 of the present application recites, in part, “wherein the first and second ground planes respectively lie in different planes of the circuit board and are electrically interconnected by a conductive trace disposed within the circuit board.”

It is respectfully submitted that the arguments set forth above with respect to claim 1 apply to claim 16 as well. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 16 be withdrawn.

Claim 17 and 22-24 depend from claim 16. Therefore, the arguments set forth above with respect to claim 16 apply to these claims as well. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7 and 18 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 502432.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at 612-455-1681.

Respectfully submitted,

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